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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/648,234	08/27/2003	Nobuyuki Kondou	KAY-0230	5363

7590 08/24/2004

McDermott, Will & Emery
600 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-3096

EXAMINER

KOSOWSKI, ALEXANDER J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2125

DATE MAILED: 08/24/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/648,234

Applicant(s)

KONDOU ET AL.

Examiner

Alexander J Kosowski

Art Unit

2125

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 August 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 13 April 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

- 1) Claims 1-2 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- 2) The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

- 3) Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Farnworth et al (U.S. PGPUB 2003/0093173), further in view of Sepe, Jr. (U.S. PGPUB 2001/0047213).

Referring to claim 1, Farnworth teaches a three-dimensional object generating system comprising: a user terminal (Paragraph 0037) and a three-dimensional plotter system (Paragraph 0040), the three-dimensional plotter system comprising a three-dimensional plotter (Paragraph 0040), a monitoring camera for imaging the operating conditions of the three-dimensional plotter (Paragraph 0050), and a three-dimensional plotter controlling computer for controlling the three-dimensional plotter (Paragraph 0040), and the user terminal comprising three-dimensional data generation means for generating three-dimensional data representing a three-dimensional object (Paragraph 0037); plotter data generation means for generating data for a three-dimensional plotter from the three-dimensional data representing the three-dimensional object (Paragraph 0040), and monitoring means for receiving and displaying a video from the monitoring camera on the side of the three-dimensional plotter system to monitor the operating conditions of the three-dimensional plotter (Paragraph 0050). However, Farnworth does not explicitly teach that

the three-dimensional plotter is connected to the user terminal through a network, that the camera is monitored through a network, nor that remote operation means exist for remotely operating the three-dimensional plotter through the network.

Sepe teaches a system for real-time monitoring and controlling of a device remotely located over a network (Paragraph 0045), whereby a user terminal is present to operate the remote device and monitor the device via a remote camera (Paragraph 0046).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the remote monitoring and controlling system taught by Sepe in the three-dimensional object generating system taught by Farnworth since this would allow for establishment of a virtual presence between geographically distributed remote users and hardware platforms that allows for real-time interactive hardware operation (Sepe, Paragraph 0014).

4) Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Farnworth, further in view of Sepe, further in view of Faruque et al (U.S. PGPUB 2003/0149500).

Referring to claim 2, Farnworth and Sepe teach the above. However, they do not explicitly teach a knowledge providing server connected to the network and for providing to the user terminal information for supporting work for generating data for the three-dimensional plotter and work for remotely operating the three-dimensional plotter by a user at the user terminal, the user terminal comprising browser means for accessing the knowledge providing server to obtain required information from the knowledge providing server and displaying the obtained information.

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Faruque teaches an interactive user terminal comprising a knowledge server accessible by a browser for providing to a user information for supporting work (Paragraphs 0021-0022 and 0028).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the browser-accessible knowledge providing server taught by Faruque to provide work information to a user at a terminal in the system taught by Farnworth and Sepe since this would allow work to be completed without being dependent on the expertise of a user and since it would simplify and improve the reliability of the system (Faruque, Paragraph 0013).

Conclusion

5) Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alexander J Kosowski whose telephone number is 703-305-3958. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, alternating Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Leo Picard can be reached on 703-308-0538. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306. In addition, the examiner's RightFAX number is 703-746-8370.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

Alexander J. Kosowski
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2125

Jayprakash N. Gandhi
Primary Examiner 2125
Technology Center 2800

JN Gandhi